GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3431
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
SUICIDES BY STUDENTS DUE TO STRESS AND DEPRESSION
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suicide cases by students are increasing in the country particularly during the examination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken a decision to launch a programme to train the school teachers, counsellors and general physicians to identify the symptoms and cause of stress and depression in students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)& (b): According to National Crime Records Bureau, a total of 5610, 5138 and 5857 students committed suicide in the country during 2004 , 2005 and 2006 respectively showing a mixed trend. No information is available on the rise in the number of student suicides during the examination.

(c)&(d):It is envisaged to restrategise the National Mental Health Programme during the 11th Five Year Plan period to include suicide prevention, stress management, Counselling services for Schools and Colleges under District Mental Health Programme with active participation of community based organizations.Under District Mental Health Programme, school/college teachers, general physicians and health workers would be trained to identify signs of stress and depression in students.District Mental Health Programme would be extended all over the country in a phased manner.